

# PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

23499

## INTRODUCTION

1. The named Plaintiff alleges violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") entitlement of the right to receive pay for all time worked for Defendant. Defendant has failed to pay Plaintiff in excess of forty (40) hours per week at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regularly hourly rate of pay at which such employees are compensated. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), the named Plaintiff will be seeking to represent all other similarly situated past and present employees, as described herein, who have not been properly paid and to have this action certified as a collective action. For herself and all those similarly situated, the named Plaintiff seeks her unpaid wages, overtime, liquidated damages, all available equitable relief, attorney fees, and litigation expenses/costs, including expert witness fees and expenses.

## **PARTIES**

- 2. The named Plaintiff is an individual who is a former employee of the Defendant, Ledcor Construction Inc. Plaintiff brings this action to recover unpaid compensation due to her and others similarly situated under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.
- 3. In addition to the Plaintiff named herein, all other similarly situated persons, that is, all persons presently or formerly employed by Defendant in similar employment positions which are

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not exempt from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the FLSA, are entitled to collectively participate in this cause of action by choosing to "opt in" and submit a Written Consent to participate in this litigation as required by 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). This case is maintained as a collective action under and pursuant to the statutory requirements of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b). As soon as practicable after the commencement of this action and in accordance with the Local Rules of the Northern District of Texas, Plaintiff will file, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), a Motion to Facilitate a Collective Action.

4. Defendant Ledcor Construction Inc. ("Ledcor") is a foreign corporation which is authorized and licensed to do business in the State of Texas, doing business in the Northern District of Texas as well as many states in the United States. Defendant Ledcor can be served with process in this case by serving its registered agent for service of process, C T Corporation System at 350 North St. Paul Street, Dallas, Texas 75201. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, Defendant has employed and continues to employ a number of employees in non-exempt work at its job sites. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendant has been and remains engaged in commerce within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 203(s)(6).

# **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5. Jurisdiction is conferred upon this Court by 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), and 28 U.S.C. § 1337. This action arises under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq. Defendant does business within the Northern District of Texas and the Court has subject matter jurisdiction and personal jurisdiction to hear the case. See 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq.

#### **FACTS**

6. Defendant Ledcor is an employer within the meaning of Section 3(d) of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).

- 7. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant has been an enterprise engaged in commerce and/or in the production of goods for commerce within the meaning of section 3 of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203.
- 8. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant has been an employer subject to the wage and hour provisions of the FLSA.
- 9. Plaintiff began her employment at Ledcor on or about January 2003. Her job was the Site Project Administrator for Costco and Walmart projects that the Dallas office of Ledcor constructed within the past five years. When she began her employment, she was the Site Project Administrator at the Frisco and Plano sites and was paid on an hourly basis. Since then, she has been employed as the Site Project Administrator at the Lewisville, Texas site in 2004, the Sherman, Texas site in 2005, and the Garland, Texas site in 2007-2008. During her employment, she also worked on several job sites in Florida.
- As a Site Project Administrator, Plaintiff was a non-exempt employee under the FLSA 10. and entitled to overtime compensation for hours worked over 40 in a week. Defendant started her out as an hourly employee but later changed her classification to a salaried employee. However, Defendant misclassified her as an exempt, salaried employee. Plaintiff was not compensated for the time she worked over 40 hours in a week as an hourly or salaried employee during the relevant time frame.
- Plaintiff regularly and consistently worked more than 40 hours per week with the 11. knowledge of Defendant for the work activities described herein and for which Defendant did not pay Plaintiff overtime. Defendant was aware of Plaintiff's overtime work and intentionally did not pay her for those hours.

- 12. Defendant has repeatedly and willfully violated, and continues to willfully violate, the FLSA statutes referenced herein by failing to pay Plaintiff and other similarly situated employees, or former employees, for the hours worked by such employees in excess of forty (40) hours per week at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regularly hourly rate of pay at which such employees are compensated.
- 13. Plaintiff and other similarly situated current and former employees were employed in a position which is not exempt from the requirements that they be compensated for their hours of work by the payment of overtime. Defendant has engaged in a pattern, practice and policy of unlawful conduct by intentionally failing to pay the lawful and required overtime rate for hours worked beyond 40 per week in violation of the FLSA statutes referenced herein.
- 14. Plaintiff was told by Ledcor's Management that she was allowed to turn in only 80 hours on each time/pay period which covered a two-week span regardless of the time she actually worked. When she complained to management, she was told she could only turn in 80 hours regardless of the actual time worked.

#### **CLAIMS**

15. The Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.) and the regulations promulgated thereunder govern the activities of the pay practices of employers involved in commerce. Plaintiff alleges that the failure of Defendant to pay Plaintiff for all hours worked is a direct violation of the FLSA statutes and regulations. Additionally, Plaintiff alleges that the failure to pay Plaintiff one and one-half her regular rate for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a work week is a direct violation of the FLSA statutes and regulations. Plaintiff will be seeking to represent all other similarly situated past and present employees, as described herein, who have not been properly paid for overtime work and to have this action certified as a collective action.

For herself and all those similarly situated, the named Plaintiff seeks her unpaid wages, overtime, liquidated damages, all available equitable relief, attorney fees, and litigation expenses/costs, including expert witness fees and expenses.

16. Section 215(a)(3) prohibits employers from discriminating against employees for engaging in a protected activity, including making informal complaints by employees to their employers about wage and hour issues. Plaintiff alleges that she was told to turn in only 80 hours on each time/pay period which covered a two-week span. When she internally complained to management, she was told she had to comply. Plaintiff alleges she was unlawfully terminated from her position in retaliation for making internal complaints regarding the unlawful wage and hour issues. Plaintiff seeks damages, all available equitable relief, attorney fees, and litigation expenses/costs, including expert witness fees and expenses for the unlawful retaliation she suffered.

## REQUESTED RELIEF

- 17. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages as a result of Defendant's failure and refusal to pay proper compensation because of the Defendant's continued violations of the FLSA. Plaintiff is entitled to a judgment granting her and similarly situated employees damages in the amount of the difference between the partial wages actually received by Plaintiff and the full wages she is entitled to recover under law, including all uncompensated overtime wages for hours worked.
- 18. Plaintiff suffered damages as a result of Defendant's unlawful retaliation against her when she informally complained to her supervisors regarding the unlawful wage and hour issues. Plaintiff is entitled to a judgment granting her damages for Defendant's unlawful conduct.

19. Plaintiff, in addition to her claim for actual damages, seeks injunctive relief from the Court to prevent future violations of the FLSA, as alleged herein. Plaintiff urges the Court to enter a permanent injunction against Defendant directing it to pay all of its employees for overtime hours worked.

# **JURY DEMAND**

20. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

# **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that judgment be granted:

- 1. Certifying this matter as a collective action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);
- Ordering the Defendant to pay the Plaintiff and all other similarly situated 2. employees compensation due as a result of Defendant's violation of the FLSA;
- 3. Ordering Defendant to pay the Plaintiff's liquidated damages;
- 4. Granting injunctive relief by ordering Defendant to comply with the requirements of the FLSA:
- 5. Ordering Defendant to pay Plaintiff's costs of court in this action;
- 6. Ordering Defendant to pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation expenses/costs, including expert fees and expenses; and
- 7. Providing such other and further relief as is just and necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSEMARY SAGE JONES

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**ATTORNEYS FOR** JANICE OSBORNE

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	Janice Osbo	rne   r	Defendants	Ledcor Cons	struction, Inc
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IV. NATURE OF SUI				:	
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine	· ·	PERSONAL INJURY 362 Personal Injury -	☐ 610 Agriculture ☐ 620 Other Food & Drug	BANKRUPTCY  422 Appeal 28 USC 158  423 Withdrawal	OTHER STATUTES  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust
☐ 130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Med. Malpractice	☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure	28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument		365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881		☐ 450 Commerce
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment		Product Liability	630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	460 Deportation
& Enforcement of Judgmen  151 Medicare Act	t Slander 🗍 :	368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product	☐ 640 R.R. & Truck ☐ 650 Airline Regs.	820 Copyrights 830 Patent	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
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of Veteran's Benefits		380 Other Personal	710 Fair Labor Standards	861 HIA (1395ff)	Exchange
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle	Property Damage	Act	☐ 862 Black Lung (923) ☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability		385 Property Damage Product Liability	☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations ☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	864 SSID Title XVI	890 Other Statutory Actions
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury	1 roduct Diability	& Disclosure Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricultural Acts
REAL PROPERTY		ISONER PETITIONS	☐ 740 Railway Labor Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	☐ 892 Economic Stabilization Act
210 Land Condemnation		510 Motions to Vacate	☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 893 Environmental Matters
220 Foreclosure	☐ 442 Employment	Sentence	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment		Habeas Corpus:	Security Act	☐ 871 IRS—Third Party	☐ 895 Freedom of Information
240 Torts to Land		530 General		26 USC 7609	Act
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property		535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other	IMMIGRATION  ☐ 462 Naturalization Application		<ul> <li>900Appeal of Fee Determination</li> <li>Under Equal Access</li> </ul>
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V. ORIGIN (Place	an "X" in One Box Only)			<u> </u>	Appeal to District
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	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute	under which you are fi	ling (Do not cite jurisdictiona	al statutes unless diversity):	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	Brief description of cause:	FLSH DUP	rtime		
VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND: Yes No					
VIII. RELATED CAS	SE(S)				
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RECEIPT #

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APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE